

Serial No. : 10/652,758
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REMARKS

In the office action, the examiner rejected Claims 1-3, 5-13 and 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nimura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,202,026) in view of Morimoto et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,351,706) in further view of Diaz (U.S. Application Publication No. 2004/0204820).

Common Ownership

The applicant respectfully requests that the cited Diaz reference be disqualified as a prior art against the instant application. At the time of the invention was made, the instant application and the cited Diaz reference (U.S. Application Publication No. 2004/0204820) were owned by the same assignee, Alpine Electronics. Further, at the time of filing date, the cited Diaz reference was not published. A copy of the assignment records for the both cases is enclosed herewith.

Therefore, the applicant believes that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is no longer applicable to the instant application, and the applicant respectfully requests that the instant application be allowed and passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

MURAMATSU & ASSOCIATES

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